

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A housing for securing an arc plate, said arc plate including a first longitudinal edge, an opposed second longitudinal edge, a notched first end, and a second end opposed to said notched first end, said housing comprising:

a first support member;

a second support member secured in spaced relation to said first support member;

a first securing ledge protruding from said first support member and toward said second support member, said first securing ledge having a lower surface;

a first opposing second securing ledge protruding from said first support member and toward said second support member, said second securing ledge having an upper surface, said first securing ledge lower surface and said second securing first opposing ledge upper surface defining a first slot adapted to receive said first longitudinal edge of said arc plate;

a second third securing ledge protruding from said second support member and toward said first support member, said third securing ledge having a lower surface;

a second opposing fourth securing ledge protruding from said second support member and toward said first support member, said fourth securing ledge having an upper surface, said second third securing ledge lower surface and said second opposing fourth securing ledge upper surface defining a second slot adapted to receive said second longitudinal edge of said arc plate;

a stop member extending into one of said first slot and said second slot, said stop member being resilient, said stop member engaging said first end of said arc plate; and

a locking member extending into said first slot to engage engaging said second end of said arc plate.

Claim 2 (Original): The housing of Claim 1 wherein said stop member is resilient and deformable.

Claim 3 (Original): The housing of Claim 1 wherein said locking member includes a resilient member and a tab, said resilient member having a first end fixedly attached to said first securing ledge and having a second end connected to said tab, said tab having an inside face for securing said arc plate in said housing.

Claim 4 (Original): The housing of Claim 1 wherein said first support member, said second support member, said first securing ledge, said second securing ledge, said stop member, and said locking member form an integral molded assembly.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A housing for securing an arc plate, said arc plate including a first longitudinal edge, an opposed second longitudinal edge, a notched first end, and a second end opposed to said notched first end, said housing comprising:

a first support member;

a second support member secured in spaced relation to said first support member;

a first securing ledge protruding from said first support member and toward said second support member, said first securing ledge having a lower surface;

a first opposing second securing ledge protruding from said first support member and toward said second support member, said second securing ledge having an upper surface, said first securing ledge lower surface and said first opposing second securing ledge upper surface defining a first slot adapted to receive said first said longitudinal edge of said arc plate;

a second-third securing ledge protruding from said second support member and toward said first support member, said third securing ledge having a lower surface;

a second-opposing fourth securing ledge protruding from said second support member and toward said first support member, said fourth securing ledge having an

upper surface, said second third securing ledge lower surface and said second opposing fourth securing ledge upper surface defining a second slot adapted to receive said second longitudinal edge of said arc plate;

a stop member ~~extending into one of said first slot and said second slot, said stop member engaging said first end of said arc plate, said stop member being resilient and deformable; and~~

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~~a locking member extending into said first slot to engage said second end of said arc plate, said locking member having a resilient member and a tab, said resilient member having a first end fixedly attached to said first securing ledge and having a second end connected to said tab, said tab having an inside face in contact with said arc plate.~~

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Claim 6 (Currently amended): An apparatus for quenching an arc, said apparatus comprising:

a first wall;

a second wall secured in spaced relation to said first wall;

a first slot formed in said first wall and opening toward said second wall;

a second slot formed in said second wall and opening toward said first wall;

a back stop member secured in spaced relation to said first wall, said back stop member being resilient;

a locking member secured in spaced relation to said first wall;

an arc plate in slidable communication with said first slot and said second slot;

whereby said arc plate is secured by said first slot, said second slot, said back stop member, and said locking member.

Claim 7 (Original): The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein said back stop member is resilient and deformable, said back stop member being deformed and in contact

with said arc plate, whereby said back stop member forces said arc plate against said locking member.

Claim 8 (Original): The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein said locking member includes a resilient member and a tab, said resilient member having a first end fixedly attached to said first wall and having a second end connected to said tab, said tab having an inside face in contact with said arc plate.

Claim 9 (Original): An apparatus for quenching an arc, said apparatus comprising:

a first wall;

a second wall secured in spaced relation to said first wall;

a first slot formed in said first wall and opening toward said second wall;

a second slot formed in said second wall and opening toward said first wall;

an arc plate in slidable communication with said first slot and said second slot;

a locking member secured in spaced relation to said first wall and including a resilient member and a tab, said resilient member having a first end fixedly attached to said first wall and having a second end connected to said tab, said tab having an inside face in contact with said arc plate;

a back stop member secured in spaced relation to said first wall, said back stop member being resilient and deformable, said back stop member being deformed and in contact with said arc plate, whereby said back stop member pushes said arc plate towards said tab;

whereby said arc plate is secured by said first slot, said second slot, said back stop member, and said locking member.

Claim 10 (Original): The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein said first slot, said second slot, said back stop member, and said locking member form an integral assembly.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): An apparatus for quenching an arc, said apparatus comprising:

an arc stack housing having a first member secured in spaced relation to a second member, said first member and said second member defining a slot having a back end and an insertion end;

a back stop positioned at said back end, said back stop being resilient;

a locking member positioned at said insertion end;

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an arc plate insertable into said slot, whereby said back stop pushes said arc plate against said locking member when inserted into said slot.

Claim 12 (Original): An apparatus for quenching an arc, said apparatus comprising:

an arc stack housing;

an arc plate; and

a means for securing said arc plate in said arc stack housing.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus of Claim 12 further comprising a means for preventing said arc plate from vibrating in said arc stack housing.
